

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to correct minor informalities. No new matter has been added by these amendments, full support for the amendments being found throughout the originally-filed specification, claims and drawings.

Objections to the Abstract

The examiner has objected to the Abstract because of a perceived informality on page 6. By the amendments herein, applicant has addressed this information. Accordingly, applicant requests that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

Objections to the Claims

The examiner has objected to claims 1 and 9 because of perceived informalities. By the amendments herein, applicant has addressed these informalities. Accordingly, the objections to claims 1-10 should be withdrawn.

Provisional Rejection For Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-10 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being potentially unpatentable over the claims of co-pending Application Serial No. 09/833,958. Applicant has concurrently filed herewith an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer, which is believed to be in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c).

Accordingly, applicant requests that the provisional rejection for obviousness-type double patenting be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims remaining in the application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration, reexamination and allowance of all claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

SHELDON & MAK

Dated: May 14, 2003

By Denton L. Anderson  
Denton L. Anderson  
Reg. No. 30,153

225 S. Lake Avenue - 9th Floor  
Pasadena, California 91101  
(626) 796-4000

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX RESPONSE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 14, 2003.

Signed: May 14, 2003

By: Jfsl  
Jennifer Ankai  
Legal Assistant to Denton L. Anderson